

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
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R 071355Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2000
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MOVES TO END DISCRIMINATION
TO BE REVEALED

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS FROM SALISBURY, IAN SMITH, LAST NIGHT, AUGUST 6, ISSUED A STATEMENT ANNOUNCING THAT THE RHODESIAN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAD APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE REMOVAL OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND THAT A STATEMENT COULD BE EXPECTED AUGUST 28. SMITH SAID THAT NOW THAT ALL THE LEADERS OF THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT WERE BACK IN THE COUNTRY, THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WOULD MEET TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS.

2. SMITH'S STATEMENT FOLLOWED THE RETURN TO SALISBURY OF MUZOREWA ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, AND A STATEMENT BY THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BISHOP THAT "WE HAVE BEEN TOLD TO GET MOVING."
MUZOREWA REPORTEDLY SAID THAT ONE OF THE THINGS HE HAD LEARNED ON HIS VISITS TO AMERICA AND THE UK WAS THAT SLOW PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE MARCH 3 AGREEMENT WAS AMMUNITION FOR THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT'S ENEMIES AND A MAJOR DISAPPOINTMENT AND EMBARRASSMENT TO ITS FRIENDS. HE SAID THE GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN CONDEMNED

ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

--FOR NOT REMOVING RACIAL DISCRIMINATION.

--FOR NOT RELEASING ALL DETAINEES.

--FOR ALLOWING THE MILITARY TO LAUNCH ATTACKS

ACROSS THE NATIONAL BORDERS WITHOUT APPARENT EXECUTIVE APPROVAL.

--FOR NOT MAKING VISIBLE PROGRESS TO MAJORITY

RULE, SUCH AS PROMOTION OF BLACKS TO SENIOR POSTS IN
THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

--FOR NOT REPEALING THE LAND TENURE ACT.

3. MUZOREWA SAID THAT ON THE BASIS OF HIS DISCUSSIONS
HE HAD COME BACK DETERMINED AND RESOLUTE THAT THEY MUST
"FULLY AND SPEEDILY IMPLEMENT THE REST OF THE MARCH 3
AGREEMENT." HE SAID HE HAD RETURNED "COMMITTED TO THE
IMMEDIATE, AND I MEAN IMMEDIATE REMOVAL OF RACIAL
DISCRIMINATION," AND HE WAS DETERMINED THAT THE EXECUTIVE
COUNCIL MUST MAKE "MORE VISIBLE PROGRESS TOWARD PREPARATIONS
FOR MAJORITY RULE."

4. MUZOREWA ALSO ATTACKED UNNAMED "UNCLE TOMS" SAYING
HE WAS NO LONGER PREPARED TO TOLERATE THEIR
"OBSTRUCTIVENESS." "THESE UNCLE TOMS," HE REPORTEDLY
SAID, "HAVE HAD A FREE RUN. THEY BOTHERED US DURING
THE NEGOTIATIONS AND NOW STAND IN THE WAY OF GREATER
PROGRESS, INVENTING ONE REASON OR ANOTHER WHY WE SHOULD
NOT SPEEDILY IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT." HE SAID HE
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WOULD NO LONGER ALLOW THE UANC TO BE EXPLOITED AND
USED FOR REACTIONARY AND SELFISH ENDS.

5. COMMENT: MUZOREWA APPARENTLY PERCEIVES THAT
POTENTIAL INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR THE INTERNAL SETTLE-
MENT HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANTLY INHIBITED BY THE FAILURE TO
REMOVE DISCRIMINATION OR TO TAKE ANY OTHER VISIBLE
STEPS TOWARD MAJORITY RULE. THE BISHOP ALSO RETURNS TO
INCREASED CRITICISM OF HIMSELF AND UNREST WITHIN THE
UANC AND HIS TOUGH STATEMENTS ARE PRESUMABLY AIMED IN PART AT
PACIFYING THIS SITUATION. THE ZIMBABWE TIMES LAST WEEK
CHARGED THAT A TRIBAL (MANYIKA) CLIQUE HAD CONTROL OF
THE UANC AND HAD ISOLATED THE BISHOP FROM THE MAINSTREAM OF
HIS FOLLOWERS. INTERESTINGLY, MUZOREWA INCLUDED AMONG
THE SHORTCOMINGS OF THE REGIME THE FAILURE TO PROMOTE
BLACKS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE, THE ISSUE WHICH LED TO THE
HOVE AFFAIR LAST MAY. THE BISHOP, HOWEVER, HAS TALKED A
GOOD GAME AT OTHER POINTS OF CRISIS AND IT REMAINS TO
BE SEEN HOW FAR THE RECOMMENDATIONS ON ENDING
DISCRIMINATION WILL GO.
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